

Table of Measurements.

Current number of specimen .....	22, 177.	
Locality .....	} Lat. 42° 48' N. Lon. 63° 07' W.	
	Millime- tres.	100ths of length.
Extreme length .....	363	.....
Length to end of middle caudal rays .....	363	.....
Body:		
Greatest height .....		52
Greatest width .....		5½
Greatest circumference .....		17½
Height at ventrals .....		5½
Head:		
Greatest length .....		14½
Greatest width .....		8½
Width of interorbital area .....		1½
Length of snout .....		3½
Length of postorbital portion of head .....		8
Length of upper jaw .....		8½
Length of mandible .....		9
Diameter of orbit .....		3½
Extent of gill-opening .....		4½
Dorsal:		
Distance from snout .....		22
Anus from snout .....		28½
Anal:		
Distance from snout .....		30
Pectoral:		
Distance from snout .....		14½
Length .....		7
Ventral:		
Distance from snout .....		12
Length .....		2
Dorsal .....	116-117	.....
Anal .....	100	.....
Pectoral .....	16	.....
Ventral .....	3	.....

WASHINGTON, March 21, 1879.

**DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF LIPARIS (L. RANULA) OBTAINED BY THE UNITED STATES FISH COMMISSION OFF HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA.**

By G. BROWN GOODE and TARLETON H. BEAN.

An apparently undescribed species of *Liparis* was taken in the large trawl-net by the collecting party on the United States steamer Speedwell, September 24, 1877, off the mouth of Halifax Harbor (Station 117, 8½ miles southeast from Chebucto Head). The depth at which it was found was 52 fathoms, the temperature at the bottom 35° F. The bottom was of fine sand and mud, and in the same haul of the net were taken the following species: *Glyptocephalus cynoglossus*, *Hippoglossoides platessoides*, *Sebastes marinus* (young), *Phycis chuss*, *Aspidophoroides monopterygius*, *Triglops Pingelii*, *Centridermichthys ucinatus*, and *Raia radiata*.

The species resembles, in the shape of its head, the *Liparis Fabricii* of Kröyer, but is easily distinguished by its less elongate body and the greater number of rays in the dorsal and anal fins. When first taken

it was colorless, almost translucent, and was covered with a thick tough integument. The following description is less complete than would seem desirable, owing to the fact that the unique specimen (No. 22,310, U. S. Nat. Mus. Cat.) was too soft and tender to admit of the requisite manipulation. The specimen, which is 56 millimetres in total length (caudal included), is a mature female, having in the abdominal cavity many large eggs.

DESCRIPTION.—The body is thick, subcylindrical anteriorly, rapidly tapering to the tail, covered with a thick lax integument; its greatest height (.25) equals the length of the head and is one-fourth of the total length of the body without caudal.

The head is somewhat tumescent at the nape; its height (over the ventral disc and eyes) contained something over six times in the length of the body; its greatest width (.18) very slightly greater and equaling twice the width of the ventral disc. The snout is broad, with prominent vertical profile; its length about one-fourth that of the head. The cleft of the mouth is horizontal, and does not extend to the perpendicular from the anterior margin of the orbit. The lips are covered with thick lax skin, the upper jaw extending beyond the lower.

The length of the upper jaw is about one-third of the length of the head; that of the mandible slightly greater than the length of the ventral disc. Each jaw armed with a band of villiform teeth. The tongue is thick, obtuse. The eye is lateral, not interfering with the upper profile of the head; its diameter (.07) more than one-fourth of the length of the head, and contained about fourteen times in the length of the body. The width of the interorbital area is contained two and one-half times in the length of the head. The nostril is close to the eye. The gill-opening is a vertical slit, extending upon the upper part of the root of the pectoral.

The dorsal fin is inserted at a distance from the snout equal to one-third of the length of the body. It contains about 48 rays, though to count them is almost impossible. The anal fin originates at a distance from the snout equal to two-fifths of the length of the body, and in the perpendicular from the eighth dorsal ray. It contains at least 48 rays. The pectoral fin is moderately broad, with 15 long rays and 12 or 13 shorter ones. The long rays are twice as long as the ventral disc and extend nearly or quite to the perpendicular from the vent.

The ventral disc is slightly longer (.10) than its distance from the snout (.09), which precisely equals its width. It has fourteen papillæ.

The color is uniform whitish, almost colorless, and translucent in life.

Table of Measurements.

Current number of specimen.....	22,310.	
Locality.....	Station 117, off Halifax.	
	Millime- tres.	100ths of length.
Length to origin of middle caudal rays.....	52	.....
Body:		
Greatest height.....		25
Height at ventral disc.....		17
Head:		
Greatest length.....		25
Greatest width.....		18
Width of interorbital area.....		10
Length of snout.....		6
Length of upper jaw.....		8
Length of mandible.....		11
Diameter of orbit.....		7
Dorsal:		
Distance from snout.....		32
Anal:		
Distance from snout.....		40
Caudal:		
Length of middle rays.....		(8)
Pectoral:		
Distance from snout.....		23
Length.....		20
Ventral:		
Distance of disc from snout.....		9
Length of disc.....		10
Width of disc.....		9
Dorsal.....	48	.....
Anal.....	(48)	.....
Pectoral.....	15+12 or 13	.....
Ventral (number of papillæ in disc).....	14	.....

WASHINGTON, March 22, 1879.

**DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF AMBER FISH (*SERIOLA STEARNSII*) OBTAINED NEAR PENSACOLA, FLORIDA, BY MR. SILAS STEARNS.**

**By G. BROWN GOODE and TARLETON H. BEAN.**

The National Museum has recently received, from Mr. Silas Stearns, of Pensacola, several species of fishes hitherto unrecorded from the Gulf of Mexico. Among them we recognize *Seriola bonariensis*, Cuv. & Val., previously observed only on the coast of Brazil, which is represented by an individual of 890 millimetres, catalogue-number 22258; also a second species of the same genus, which, though closely related to two Cuban species, has characters which distinguish it from them, or, at least, which do not harmonize with the published descriptions. This form may in the future prove to be identical with *Seriola gigas* or *Seriola dubia*; it appears to be as distinct from either of these species as they from each other. It is therefore fully described as a new species under the name *Seriola Stearnsii*. We prefer thus to place the Pensacola specimen on record as a provisional new species rather than to identify it on insufficient grounds with an already-named species, of which the published descriptions are incomplete. A study of a large series of specimens will doubtless largely reduce the number of species in this genus.